

Michael Reed
1601 Willow Road
Menlo Park CA 94025

Aug 29th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

It has been well documented that the US lags much of the developed world in broadband connectivity. Having just one or two network providers - local telephone company and/or cable TV company - is slowing us down. Local Internet providers are attempting to build out their own networks, but they have a long way to go to reach a competitive scale.

AT&T and their trade association, US Telecom, recently petitioned the FCC to limit access to critical unbundled network elements. These unbundled elements are critical last-mile copper and inter-city fiber that are used by competing local Internet access providers, including my service provider. Without access to this infrastructure, my service provider is at risk of losing access to a huge portion of its customer base, jeopardizing their business and network build out, leading to potentially higher rates, and even fewer options for consumers.

Please help ensure we do not fall even further behind in broadband connectivity.

Thank you.

Michael Reed